Case 1:05-cv-02050-YK Document 1 Filed 10/07/05 Page 1 of 36 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT APPENDIX F

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA - DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for

the purp	ose of assignment to appropriate calendar.						
Address	of Plaintiff: 21 Meadow Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011						
Address	of Defendant: 751 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777						
Place of	Accident, Incident or Transaction: <u>150 Corporate Center Drive, Suite I</u> (Use Reverse						
more of	s civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent its stock? two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.C	•	and a	any publicly held corporation owning 10% or			
	s case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?			□ Yes 🗷 No			
RELATI Case Nu	ED CASE, IF ANY: umber Judge			Date Terminated			
Civil cas 1. 2. 3.	ses are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following quest If this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit encourt? Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same terminated action in this court? Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already previously terminated action in this court?	ding or within transaction as	a pi	☐ Yes 图 No rior suit pending or within one year previously ☐ Yes 图 No			
CIVIL (Place √ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY) Federal Question Cases:	В.		Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:			
1.	Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract and All Other Contracts	1.	区	Insurance Contract and Other Contracts			
2. 🗆	FELA	2.		Airplane Personal Injury			
3. 🗆	Jones Act-Personal Injury	3.		Assault, Defamation			
4. 🗆	Antitrust	4.		Marine Personal Injury			
5. 🗆	Patent	5.		Motor Vehicle Personal Injury			
6. 🗆	Labor-Management Relations	6. [×	Other Personal Injury (Please specify)			
7. 🗆	Civil Rights	7.		Products Liability			
8.	Habeas Corpus	8.		Products Liability – Asbestos			
9. 🗆	Securities Act(s) Cases	9.		All other Diversity Cases			
10. 🗆	Social Security Review Cases			(Please specify)			
11. 🗆	All other Federal Question Cases			alleges negligence and breach of fiduciary du g the sale of an annuity contract.			
	(Please specify)						
	ARBITRATION CERTIF (Check appropriate Cat						
I, Jonat	han Dryer, Esquire , counsel of record do hereby certify:						
action ca	Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of mase exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	ny knowledge	ano	belief, the damages recoverable in this civil			
	Relief other than monetary damages is sought.						
DATE:	October 4, 2005 Jonathan Dryer, Esquire Attorney-at-Law			34496 Attorney ID #			
	NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been co	ompliance wit	th F.				
	that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pen cept as noted above.	ding or within	n on	e year previously terminated action in this			
DATE:	October 4, 2005			34496			
CIV. 60	Attorney-at-Law			Attorney ID#			

JS44 (Rev. 3/99) Case 1:05-cv-02050-YK CROCUMER SHELLED 10/07/05 Page 2 of 36 APPENDIX H

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS CRAIG A. HATCH, EXECT BENDER AND RICHARD B. BE (b) County of Residence of Fire (EXCEPT IN U.)	NDER	ork	DEFENDANTS PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL, INC. d/b/a THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA County of Resident of First Listed Newark (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: INLAND CONDEMNATION CASES. USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.				
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Ad Byron L. McMasters, Esquire Albert N. Peterlin, Esquire Gates, Halbruner & Hatch, P.C. 1013 Mumma Road, Suite 100 Lemoyne, PA 17043-1144 (717) 731-9600	dress and Telephone Nu	mber)	Attorneys (If Known) Jonathan Dryer, Esquire Wilson, Elser, Moskowit The Curtis Center, Suite Philadelphia, Pennsylvar (215) 627-6900	tz, Edelman & Dicker LLP 1130 East, Independence Sc nia 19106			
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place	3. Federal		III. CITIZENSHIP OF PR (For Diversity Cases Only)	INCIPAL PARTIES (Place an and One DEF	"X" in One Box for Box for Defendant) DEF		
☐ 2. U.S. Government Defendant	🗷 4. Diversit	rernment Not a Party) y Citizenship of	Citizen of this State	1 Incorporates or 1 Of Business in the			
		1 Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporates and Of Business in A	d Principal Place ☐ 5 🗷 5 Another State		
	(10)		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3			
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place a			1		0.000		
CONTRACT	TORT	~	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES		
☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL	INJURY	☐ 610 Agriculture	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC	☐ 400 State		
120 Marine	310 Airplane		☐ 620 Other Food &	423 Withdrawal 28	Reapportionment		
☐ 130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Prod	-	Drug	USC 157	410 Antitrust		
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	☐ 320 Assault, Libel		☐ 625 Drug Related	j	430 Banks and Banking		
☐ 150 Recovery of	330 Federal Emplo	yers' Liability	Seizure of	1	☐ 450 Commerce/ICC		
Overpayment &	☐ 340 Marine		Property 21 USC		Rates/etc.		
Enforcement of	☐ 345 Marine Produc	t Liability	☐ 630 Liquor Laws	1	460 Deportation		
Judgment	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle	•	☐ 640 Airline Regs.		470 Racketeer Influenced		
☐ 151 Medicare Act	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle		☐ 660 Occupational		and Corrupt		
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	☐ 360 Other Persona		Safety/Health		Organizations		
Student Loans (Excl.	I '		☐ 690 Other		☐ 810 Selective Service		
Veterans)	☐ 362 Personal Injury Malpractice	y-Med.			850 Securities/		
☐ 153 Recovery of		Dead Tiek			Commodities/		
Overpayment of	☐ 365 Personal Injur				Exchange		
Veteran's Benefits	370 Other Fraud	KOLEKII			☐ 875 Customer Challenge		
160 Stockholders' Suits	1 =				12 USC 3410		
■ 190 Other Contract	371 Truth in Lendi	_			☐ 891 Agricultural Acts		
☐ 195 Contract Product	380 Other Persona	Property	•	·	892 Economic		
Liability	Damage	D 1 -4			Stabilization Act		
	☐ 385 Property Dams Liability	age Product			☐ 893 Environmental		
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER	LABOR	PROPERTY RIGHTS	Matters		
		PETITIONS		I NO. DATE NO.	894 Energy Allocation Act		
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	441 Voting	510 Motions	☐ 710 Fair Labor	☐ 820 Copyrights	☐ 895 Freedom of		
220 Foreclosure	☐ 442 Employment	to Vacate	Standards Act	☐ 830 Patent	Information Act		
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	443 Housing/	Sentence Habeas	☐ 720 Labor/Mgmt.	☐ 840 Trademark	☐ 900 Appeal of Fee		
☐ 240 Torts to Land	Accommodations	Corpus	Relations	SOCIAL SECURITY	Determination		
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability	☐ 444 Welfare	☐ 530 General	☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff)	☐ 950 Constitutionality		
290 All Other Real Property	440 Other Civil	☐ 535 Death	Reporting &	☐ 862 Black Lung	of State Statutes		
250 7th Chief Real Floperty	Rights	Penalty	Disclosure Act	(923)	☐ 890 Other Statutory		
1	_	□ 540	☐ 740 Railway Labor	□ 863 DIWC/DIWW	Actions		
		Mandamus	Act	(405(g))			
		& Other	790 Other Labor	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI			
		550 Civil	Litigation	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))			
		Rights	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	FEDERAL TAX SUITS			
		555 Prison	Security Act	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S.			
		Condition		Plaintiff or			
į				Defendant			
				☐ 871 IRS-Third			
				Party 26 USC			
1				7609			

	K" IN ONE BOX ONLY)			******	
V. ORIGIN					
	<u>_</u>		Transferred from	l .	Appeal to District
_	Removed from 🗌 3 Remanded from		□5 another district	☐6 Multidistrict	□7 Judge from
Proceeding St	ate Court Appellate Cou	urt Reopened	(specify)	Litigation	Magistrate
			···	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Judgment
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	N (Cite the U.S. Civil Statute und	er which you are filing and	write brief statement of	cause. Do not cite j	urisdictional statutes unless
	S.C. § 1332 (a)(1), Cause of Action	on between citizens of diffe	rent states, damages all	eged to be in excess of	of jurisdictional limit
VII. REQUESTED IN	☐ CHECK IF	THIS IS A CLASS ACTI	ON \square DEMAND \$	CHECK YES	only if demanded in complaint:
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F	.R.C.P. 23	>\$100,000	JURY DEMA	AND: ☑ Yes ☐ No
			•		
VIII. RELATED CASE(S	S) IF ANY (See instructions):	JUDGE:	DOCK	ET NUMBER	
					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
DATE 10-6-0	سنع	SIGNAT	URE OF ATTORNEY	OF RECORD	
			suy		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		()			
DECEME!					
RECEIPT #	AMOUNT	APPLYING IFP.	JUDGE	MAG	. JUDGE
					

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clark of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clark of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suite by agencies and officers of the United States, are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a part, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS-44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section IV below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of JS-44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

APPENDIX I

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

CIVIL ACTION

CRAIG A. HATCH, EXECUTOR OF

the ESTATE OF JANE T. BENDER and

the ES	TATE OF RICHARD	B. BENDER	;			
	v.		: : JURY	TRIAL DEMANDED		
busine PRUD	ENTIAL FINANCIA ss corporation, d/b/a T ENTIAL INSURANC MERICA	THE	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :			
plainti filing t side of design plainti that de	ff shall complete a case the complaint and serve this form.) In the everation, that defendant serve and all other parties fendant believes the complete the compl	se Management Track we a copy on all defendent that a defendant deshall, with its first apply, a case management asse should be assigned	Designation Fordants. (See §1:0 pes not agree with earance, submit track designation d.	Plan of this court, counsel form in all civil cases at the time 3 of the plan set forth on the resh the plaintiff's regarding said to the clerk of court and serve a form specifying the track to	e of eve l on	rse the
SELE	CT ONF OF THE FO	OLLOWING CASE	MANAGEME	NT TRACKS:		
(a)	Habeas Corpus – Cas	ses brought under 28 U	J.S.C. §2241 thr	ough §2255	()
(b)		ses requesting review ervices denying plaint			()
(c)	Arbitration – Cases re	equired to be designat	ed for arbitration	n under Local Civil Rule 53.2	()
(d)	Asbestos – Cases inv exposure to asbestos	olving claims for pers	sonal injury or p	roperty damage from	()
(e)	are commonly referre	Cases that do not fact to as complex and twerse side of this form	hat need special	or intense management	()
(f)	Standard Managemer	nt. – Cases that do not	fall into any one	of the other tracks	(Σ	K)
Octobe Date	er 4, 2005	Jonathan Dryer, Esq Attorney-at-law	uire	Defendant Prudential Financi Attorney for	al,	<u>Inc</u>
215.62 Teleph		215.627.2665 Fax Number		dryerj@wemed.com E-Mail Address		

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CRAIG A. HATCH, EXECUTOR OF

CIVIL ACTION

the ESTATE OF JANE T. BENDER and

the ESTATE OF RICHARD B. BENDER

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL, INC., a foreign

business corporation, d/b/a THE

PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY

OF AMERICA

v.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

AND NOW, comes the defendant, Prudential Financial, Inc. ("Prudential"), and for the purpose of removing this case to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, respectfully avers as follows:

- 1. This is an action instituted in the Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland County by plaintiff, Craig A. Hatch, as Executor of the Estates of Jane T. Bender and Richard B. Bender, on or about August 30, 2005. Prudential was served with the complaint on or about September 9, 2005.
- 2. This notice of removal, filed within 30 days of service of the complaint, is therefore timely pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1446(b).
- 3. A true and correct copy of the complaint, which is the only pleading served on Prudential to date, is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

4. According to the complaint, plaintiff is a citizen of Pennsylvania. The complaint seeks

damages of "Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty Five and 62/100 Dollars (\$73,545.62),

plus punitive damages, attorneys fees " See Exhibit "A".

5. Prudential is a New Jersey corporation with its principal place of business at 751 Broad

Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777.

6. This is a suit of a civil nature, involves a controversy between citizens of different states

and the amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interests and costs.

7. This court therefore has jurisdiction of this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332 (a)(1) and

28 U.S.C. §1441.

8. Prudential has simultaneously with the filing of this notice given written notice to

plaintiff's counsel.

9. Prudential is also filing a copy of the instant Notice of Removal and all attachments thereto

with the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas of Cumberland County.

WHEREFORE, defendant Prudential Financial, Inc. prays that this suit be removed to this

Honorable Court where it shall proceed as if originally commenced herein.

Respectfully submitted,

WILSON, ELSER, MOSKOWITZ, EDELMAN & DICKER LLP

Jonathan Dryer, Esquire Attorney for Defendant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Jonathan Dryer, Esquire, counsel for defendant Prudential Financial, Inc., certifies that he served a copy of the foregoing Notice of Removal on counsel of record by depositing a copy of same in a first class United States Post Office Box, with postage prepaid fully, addressed as follows:

Jonathan Dr

Gates, Halbruner & Hatch, P.C. Byron L. McMasters, Esquire Albert N. Peterlin, Esquire 1013 Mumma Road, Suite 100 Lemoyne, PA 17043-1144 SEP 09 '05 16:06 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO.

7177638974 TO 19738824318

. 22/28

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

CRAIG A. HATCH, EXECUTOR OF : the ESTATE OF JANE T. BENDER and :

the ESTATE OF RICHARD B. BENDER .:

Civil Action-Law

Plaintiff.

No. 05 -4479

Civil Term

٧,

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL, INC., a foreign business corporation, d/b/a THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

Defendant.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

NOTICE

You have been sued in court. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action within twenty (20) days after this complaint and notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filling in writing with the court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the court without further notice for any money claimed in the complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE, IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER.

IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PERSONS AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE.

Cumberland County Bar Association 2 Liberty Avenue Carliele, Pennsylvania 17013 Telephone No. 717-249-3166

and the seal of said Court at Caribsia, Pa.
This 3046 day of Aug.

Prolitonotary

Case 1:05-cv-02050-YK Document 1 Filed 10/07/05 Page 10 of 36

SEP 29 105 16:06 FR PRIDENTIAL INS CD 7177638974 TD 19739024310 P.03/26

Gates, Halbruner & Hatch, P.C.
By: Byron L. McMaeters, Esquire
PA Attorney ID No. 92410
Albert N. Peterlin, Esquire
PA Attorney ID No. 84180
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Lemoyne, PA 17043-1144
(717) 731-9600
(717) 731-9627 facsimile
b.mcmasters@gateslawfirm.com
a.peterlin@gateslawfirm.com
www.gateslawfirm.com

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

CRAIG A. HATCH, EXECUTOR OF the ESTATE OF JANE T. BENDER and the ESTATE OF RICHARD B. BENDER.	Civil Action—Law
Plaintiff,	No
v.	
PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL, INC., 8 New Jersey business corporation, d/b/a: THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA	
Defendant,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT

Piaintiff, Craig A. Hetch, Executor of the Estate of Richard B. Bender and the Estate of Jane T. Bender, by and through his attorneys, Gates, Halbruner & Hatch, P.C., hereby complains against the Defendant, Prudential Financial, Inc. d/b/a The Prudential Insurance Company of America, and in support thereof avers as follows:

I. PARTIES

- Plaintiff, Creig A. Hatch (the "Executor"), is an adult individual residing at
 Meadow Drive, Camp Hill, York County, Pennsylvania, 17011, and is the
 Executor of the Estate of Richard B. Bender and the Estate of Jane T. Bender.
- Defendant, Prudential Financial, Inc. is a New Jersey corporation with its principal place of business at 751 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777.
- 3. Prudential Financial, Inc. sells its annuities through The Prudential Insurance Company of America, a division of Prudential Financial, Inc., with its principal place of business at 751 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102-3777.
- 4. The Prudential Insurance Company of America utilizes local branch/field offices to self its annuities to its clients, one of which is located at 150 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 105, Camp Hill, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, 17011-1759.

IL JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. Jurisdiction is proper pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 931(a) where the instant action involves substantial state questions,
- Venue is proper pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 931(c) and Pa.R.C.P.
 2179(a)(1) where Defendant's registered office is located in Cumberland County.

III. INTRODUCTION

- 7. This case sounds in breach of fiduciary duty and negligence on the part of Defendant.
- 8. Factually, this case centers on Defendant's failure to provide Plaintiff's Decedents, Richard B. and Jane T. Bender (jointly, "Benders"), with proper advice

NU. 5003 F. Case 1.05-cv-02050-YK Document 1 Filed 10/07/05 Page 12 of 36 SEP 29 '25 16:27 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO 7177639974 TO 19739824310 P.25 28

regarding a suitable investment of their \$100,000.00, i.e. one which had a likelihood of producing income in accordance with the Benders' stated investment objective.

- 9. Instead, Defendant advised the Benders to purchase an annuity that would pay a fixed sum of money for the remainder of their lives, which turned out to be less than three years from when payments began.
- 10. Notably, at the time Defendant provided financial advice to the Benders, Richard Bender was seventy-five (75) years of age with prostate cancer, and Jane Bender was seventy-eight (78) years of age and suffering from circhosis, cancer and emphysems.
- The annuity that Defendant advised the Benders to purchase for \$100,000.00 yielded \$778.07 per month for the rest of the Benders' lives.
- 12. In order for the Benders to have simply recouped the \$100,000,00 they invested, at least one of them would have had to survive for ten (10) years and nine (9) months after the payments began.
- 13. Said failure of Defendant to provide prudent investment advice was wrongful in that the Benders, due to their advanced age and failing health, relied on Defendant's expertise and superior knowledge in choosing a suitable investment of their \$100,000.00 that would produce income.
- 14. Defendant's conduct was willful, outrageous, and showed a reckless indifference to the rights of the Benders.

SEP 09 '05 16:07 FR PRIDENTIAL INS CO 7177638974 TO 19738824310 P.06/20

IV. BACKGROUND

- 15. In or about February of 2002, upon information and belief, Andrew Grace, a representative of Defendant, provided financial advice to Richard Bender and Jane Bender regarding the Investment of their \$100,000.00.
- 16. To aid Defendant in determining suitable investments for the Benders, on or about February 15, 2002, Richard Bender completed and signed a "Customer Information Form" provided by Defendant, wherein he noted that his "Investment Objective" was "Income," and his "Risk Tolerance" was "Conservative." See attached Exhibit "A."
- 17. Thereafter, on or about February 15, 2002, Richard Bender, as "owner," and Jane Bender, as "joint owner," completed a "Prudential Income Annuity

 Application." See attached Exhibit "B."
- 18. As a result of the submission of the Prudential Income Annuity
 Application, the Benders received an annuity contract, on or about February 19,
 2002, the material terms of which are that for a purchase price of \$100,000.00, the
 Benders would receive \$778.07 per month from Defendant, starting March 15, 2002,
 and continuing until the death of the second spouse to die. See attached Exhibit
 "C."
- 19. At the time the Benders purchased the annuity, Richard Bender, born October 18, 1926, was age seventy-five (75), and Jane Bender, born November 23, 1923, was age seventy-eight (78).

- 20. The Benders began to receive monthly annuity payments on March 15, 2002, in the amount of \$778.07, and these payments continued until Jane Bender's death on January 4, 2005.
 - 21. Richard Bender had predeceased Jane Bender on July 7, 2004.
- 22. The Benders received a total of thirty-four (34) payments under the annuity contract, totaling \$28,454.38.

V. CAUSES OF ACTION

Count ! Breach of Fiduciary Duty

- 23. Paragraphs 1-22 are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.
- 24. Defendant collected personal and confidential information about the Benders, including annual income, net worth, liquid net worth, risk tolerance, and investment objective.
- 25. Upon information and belief, Defendant was also aware that the Bendera were elderly and alling—Richard Bender with prostate cancer and Jane Bender with cirrhosis, cancer and emphysema.
- 26. By virtue of Defendant's representative's position as a financial advisor and the Benders' positions as elderly, alling individuals seeking investment advice, the Benders invested a level of trust and confidence in Defendant's representative such that they sought no other investment advice.
- 27. Due to Defendant's superior position with respect to the Benders,
 Defendant had a duty to act with scrupulous falmess and good faith in its dealings

SET. 19. 2005 Case 1:05-cv-02050-YK ANDIA LAW DEPARTMENT NO. 5603 F. 6
SET 29 '85 16:07 FR PRIDENTIAL INS CO 7177638974 TO 19738824310 P.26229

with the Benders and not to utilize the position to the Benders' detriment and Defendant's advantage.

- 28. Defendant breached this fiduciary duty by advising the Benders to purchase an annuity that had an extremely low probability of fulfilling their investment objective; to wit, despite Defendant's knowledge that the Benders were elderly and in poor health and the Benders' investment objective was "income," at least one of the Benders would have had to survive for ten (10) years and nine (9) months (Richard Bender would have been eighty-six (86) years of age; Jane Bender, eighty-eight (88)) after the monthly payments began on March 15, 2002, just to receive a return of the principal sum of \$100,000.00.
- 29. Furthermore, if the monthly payments had continued for the following periods, the growth rate would still have been less than reasonable for an investment objective of "income" even with a "conservative" risk preference:
 - a. Eleven (11) years; Growth rate: 0.49%
 - b. Twelve (12) years; Growth rate: 1,95%
 - c. Thirteen (13) years; Growth rate: 3.11%
 - d. Fourteen (14) years; Growth rate: 4,05%
 - e. Fifteen (15) years; Growth rate: 4.82 %
 - f. Stateen (16) years; Growth rate; 5.45%
 - g. Seventeen (17) years; Growth rate; 5.98%.
- 30. Thus, Mr. Bender would have had to survive until age ninety-two (92) and/or Mrs. Bender would have had to survive until age ninety-five (95) in order to

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have received a return on investment consistent with their investment objective of "income."

31. Defendant's conduct was willful, outrageous, and showed a reckless indifference to the rights of the Benders.

Wherefore, Plaintiff, Craig A. Hatch, Executor of the Estate of Richard B. Bender and the Estate of Jane T. Bender, demands judgment against Defendant, Prudential Financial, Inc. d/b/a The Prudential Insurance Company of America, for damages of Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Five and 62/100 Dollars (\$73,545.62) plus punitive damages, attorneys fees, costs, interest, and such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Count II Negligence

- 32. Paragraphs 1-31 are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full.
- 33. As the Benders' financial advisor, Defendant owed a duty to the Benders to provide financial advice to them in accordance with their stated investment objective of "income" and their risk preference of "conservative."
- 34. Defendant breached this duty by selling the Benders an annuity that would not meet their investment objective; to wit, Defendant advised the Benders to purchase an annuity that would not even result in a return of principal for a period of ten (10) years and nine (9) months after payments began, this despite Defendant's knowledge of the Benders' advanced age and failing health.

SEP. 19. 2005 **QaşeP1**:05-c**v4020\$6** YKANDOCUMENE PAR Filed 10/07/05 Page 17 of 36

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 The Benders suffered damages as a result of Defendant's negligence. i.e. loss of money not recouped by the monthly payments and loss of opportunity to make an investment consistent with their stated objective.

- 36. Defendant caused the damages suffered by the Benders by providing poor investment advice.
- 37. Defendant's conduct was willful, outrageous, and showed a reckless indifference to the rights of the Benders.

Wherefore, Plaintiff, Craig A. Hatch, Executor of the Estate of Richard B. Bender and the Estate of Jane T. Bender, demands judgment against Defendant, Prudential Financial, Inc. d/b/a The Prudential Insurance Company of America, for damages of Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Five and 62/100 Dollars (\$73,545.62) plus puritive damages, attorneys fees, costs, interest, and such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted.

GATES, HALBRUNER & HATCH, P.C.

By:

Byron L. McMasters, Esquire PA Attorney ID No. 92410 Albert N. Peterlin, Esquire PA Attorney ID No. 84180 1013 Mumma Road, Suite 100 Lemoyne, PA 17043

(717) 731-9600

(Attorneys for Plaintiff)

Date: 8-26-05

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P.11/28

VERIFICATION

I, Craig A. Hatch, state that I have reviewed the foregoing *Complaint* and verify that the facts contained therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I further verify that these statements made by me are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 4904 relating to unsworn faisification to authorities.

Date: 8/26/2005

Craig A. Hatch

Executor for the Estate of

Richard B. Bender

Executor for the Estate of

Jane T. Bender

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P.12/28

Exhibit A

AMERICAN SKANDIA LAW DEPARTMENT

SEP. 19. 2005

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Exhibit B

SEP 89 '85 16:89 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO

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P.16/28



Prudentia Income Annuity Application

Prudential Annuity Service Center PO Stat 13379 Philidephia, PA 19101

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. 12 Signatures/ Authoriza- tions	will be given a financial disclosure statement with the contra	n IRA disclosure emterrent and understands that he or she ict. The Owner understands that lax deferral is provided by contract for its feetures other than lax deferrel as described
	No representative can make or change a contract or waive a	any of the company's rights or needs.
	The Owner(s) believes this contract meets his/her needs an take effect on the date the purchase payment is received in annulant ded after that date but before the	Prudentials Annuity Service Center, even If the
	il is understood that the purchase payment becomes the ab limited to the payout option elected in section 10. Once you option that you selected.	contract is issued, you cannot change the payment
	LX If this contract has a Joint Owner, please check this box either the Owner or Joint Owner with regard to transact Client's Additional Remarks	t to authorize Prudential to act on the instruction(s) of ions under the contract.
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	Stand at Houristony, PA	
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ERepje- sonbitive's Signature	Do you have, from any source, facts that any person named replacing or changing any current insurance or annuity in an helow.	as Owner or Joint Chaner above is ny company? If Yes, provide details
8	This application is submitted in the belief that the purchase of information furnished and as reviewed with the applicant. Rettle Countries overall financial situation, needs and investment	of this contract is appropriate for the applicant based on the associable locally has been made of the Owner concerning to blectives.
1	The representative hereby certifies that all imbornation conta	ined in this application is true to the best of
1 5 1	Higher knowledge. D. Gree ce	Representative ITCE4GO:
Ś	Name (Print)	Compact Number
1	× Uan Del	
2	Charles	
ţ	HARX Grater Harrisburg	HARX 717-925-850
8	Branch/Field Office Name	Branch/Field Office Code Telephone No.
ď.	1)emis R Browne	2nd Representative Contract Number 777013;
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8	Representative's Additional Remarks	
	Mail To: Prudential Annulty Service Center	Outperfully Bundantial Apollogical and a second
ð	. PO Box 13378	Overnight: Prudential Annuity Service Center 2101 Weish Road
Q	Philadelphia, PA 19101 Quastions? Clients call (888) 778-2888 (toll free)	Dresher, PA 19025
7	Agents call (800) 843-4124, Financial	Arhibert Coll (RTM 304-E483

SEP 09 '05 16:11 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO 7177638974 TO 19738024310

Exhibit C

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P.21/28

The Prudential Insurance Company of America Newark, New Jersey 07102

Annuitant(s)

Sex

Date of Birth

RICHARD B BENDER JANET BENDER М

November 8, 1926 November 23, 1923

Contract Number PIA000000828-A

Contract Date February 19, 2002

Annuity Payment Date March 15, 2002

Purchase Psyment \$100,000.00

Owner RICHARD & BENDER

Subject to all the provisions of this contract, we will make all payments as stated in the payment schedule. Unless we have endorsed the contract to say otherwise, we will make the payments to the owner. We show the amount and due date of each payment in the payment schedule.

This contract does not have a cash value.

Please read this contract with care. If there is ever a question about it, just see a Prudential agent or get in touch with one of our offices.

Right to Cancel Contract.—You may return this contract within 10 days after you get it. All you have to do is take the contract or mall it to one of our offices or to the representative who sold it to you. It will be cancelled from the start and we will return your money in accordance with state law.

Signed for Prudential.

gecrotery

President

Annuity Contract.

Single Purchase Payment, Non-participating.

SEP 09 '05 16:11 FR PRIDENTIAL INS CO

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P. 22/29

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Definitions. We define here some of the words and phrases used in this contract.

We. Our. and Us .- Prudential.

You and Your,—The owner of the contract.

Annuitant(s).—The person(s) we show as annultant(s) on the first page.

Due Date .-- The date each annuity payment is due.

The Contract This contract, including all he provisions, forms the whole contract. It will take effect on the contract date only if the purchase payment is paid to us by the time you get the contract. Otherwise it will be vold. The purchase payment may be paid at our Home Office or to an authorized agent of ours. If we are asked to do so, we will give a signed receipt. If the contract takes affect, the purchase payment will belong to us.

Contract Modifications. Only a Prudential officer with the rank or title of vice president or above may agree to modify this. contract, and then only in writing.

Ownership and Control. Unless we endorse this contract to say otherwise; (1) the owner of the contract is as stated on the first page; and (2) while the annuitant is living the owner alone is entitled to (a) any contract benefit, and (b) the exercise of any right and privilege granted by the contract or by us.

> Those rights include but are not limited to the right to designate or change the person or entity to whom annulty payments will be made. To make a change, the owner must notify us in writing in a form that meets our needs. The change will take offect as of the date we receive the notice at our Home Office. We will not adjust any payment made or change any action taken before we receive the notice.

Currency Any money we pay, or which is paid to us, must be in United States currency. Any amount we owe will be payable at our Corporate Office.

Assignment. We will not be deemed to know of an assignment unless we receive it, or a copy of it, at our Home Office. We are not obliged to see that the assignment is valid or sufficient.

Proof of Life or Death. Before we make a payment, we have the right to require proof of the life or death of any person. whose life or death determines whether or to whom we must make the payment.

Misstatement of Age. If any annuitant's stated date of birth or sax or both are not correct, we will change the amount of or Sex, the annuity payments to that which the purchase payment would have bought for the correct date of birth and sex. Also, we will edjust the amount of any payments we have already made. Here is how we will do it: (1) We will deduct any overpayments, with interest at 5% a year, from any paymenti(s) due then or later. (2) We will add any underpayments, with Interest at 5% a year, to the next payment we make after we receive proof of the corract date of birth or sex.

and No Loan

No Surrender You may not surrender the contract for cash or borrow from us on the contract.

of Contract

Non-participation This contract is not eligible for dividends.

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SEP 29 '85 16:11 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO

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P.23/28

Prudential & Financial

🖾 The Prodential Insurance Company of America

☐ Price Life Insurance Company

D Pruco Life Insurance Company of New Jersey
All are Prudential companies

Armuitant: BICHARD B HENDER
Joint Amuitant: JANE T BENDER

ب

۴.

Contract Number: PIA000000828-A

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

THIS IS A LEGAL CONTRACT BETWEEN YOU AND PRUDENITAL READ YOUR CONTRACT CAREFULLY

We will make monthly annuity payments under this contract starting on March 15, 2002, of \$778.07 each for as long as any of the annuitants is living. Payments end with the last one due before the death of the last to die of the annuitants if such death occurs after all of the payments certain have been paid.

Each annuity payment will be made on its due date to the owner.

Prod of Provision

This Schedule attached to this contract on the Contract Date.

Endorsed or acknowledged for the Company

Ву

Secretary
On Contract Date: February 19, 2002

ORD 86567-88

SEF. 19. 2003 12:22 FM. AMERICAN SNANDIA LAW DEPARTMENT NO. 5693 F. 24 Case 1:05-cv-02050-YK Document 1 Filed 10/07/05 Page 31 of 36

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ENDORSEMENTS

(Only we can endorse this contract.)

SEP 09 'ES 16:12 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO

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P.25/28

ENDORSEMENTS

(Only we can endorse this contract.)

Annuity Contract.
Single Purchase Payment. Non-perticipating.

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SEP 89 '85 16:12 FR PRUDENTIAL INS CO

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ENDORSEMENTS

(Only we can endorse this contract.)

ALTERATION OF TEXT

The provision of this contract entitled "Assignment" is replaced at issue by the following:

Assignment We will not be deemed to know of an assignment unless we receive it, or a copy of it, at our Home Office. We are not obliged to see that an assignment is valid or sufficient. This contract may not be assigned to any employee benefit plan or program without our consent.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America.

or dum & Rent

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SEP 89 '85 16:12 FR FRIDENTIAL INS CO.

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P.27/28

The Prudential Insur: ompany of America Pruco Life Insurance company*

*A Subsidiary of The Prudential Insurance Company of America

ENDORSEMENT

Individual Annuity Contract Used to Fund a Non-Qualified Individual Rattrement Annuity Program

Generally under section 72(s) of the internal Revenue Code of 1966 (as amended), emounts payable under annuity contracts are required to be distributed on the death of the owner of an annuity contract. Where there is more than one owner, these rules apply upon the death of the first owner. Unless, these rules apply, the contract will not be treated as an annuity contract, payments under the contract will cease to be tax-deferred and penalties may apply.

The Limitations Provision ("the Provision") describes the distribution requirements on the death of the owner of this annuity contract. The Provision also describes the epecial distribution rules if the owner of this contract is a non-individual, such as a corporation. The Provision will not apply on the death of the annuitant unless the annuitant is also the owner of this contract. However, depending on the contract, the contract may end on the death of the annuitant.

In the event of the contract owner's death, the Provision overrides other provisions in this contract relating to distributions under the contract.

I. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS -

- (A) If the owner of this contract dies on or after the date the payments under the contract have begun but have not yet been completed, then distributions of the remaining amounts payable under the contract must be made at least as rapidly as the rate that was being used at the date of death.
- (B) if the owner of this contract dies before the date that payments under the contract are due to begin, then distributions of all amounts payable under the contract must be completed within five years after the owner's death.

II. EXCEPTIONS TO THE DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS —

The required distributions need not be made in the manner described under the "Distribution Requirements" section above, where any of the following situations apply:

- (A) Designated Beneficiary: The individual who becomes the new owner or holder of this contract can extend the distributions beyond the above prescribed time limit by choosing to receive distributions that start within one year after the owner's death and extend for a period that does not exceed his or her life or life expectancy. Thus, the beneficiary may choose to receive distributions under a fixed period payout option (for a period not greater than his life expectancy) or a life annuity option.
- (B) Spouse as Beneficiary: If the individual who becomes the new owner or holder of this contract is the deceased owner's apouse, then the required distributions described in the Provision do not apply until the spouse's death.

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SEP 89 '85 16:12 FR PRIDENTIAL INS CO.

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P. 27/28

The Prudential Insura propany of America Pruco Life Insurance company*

*A Subsidiary of The Prudential Insurance Company of America

ENDORSEMENT

Individual Annuity Contract Used to Fund a Non-Qualified Individual Retirement Annuity Program

Generally under section 72(s) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended), amounts psychie under annuity contracts are required to be distributed on the death of the owner of an ennuity contract. Where there is more then one owner, these rules apply upon the death of the first owner. Unless, these rules apply, the contract will not be treated as an annuity contract, payments under the contract will cease to be tax-deferred and penalties may apply.

The Limitations Provision ("the Provision") describes the distribution requirements on the death of the owner of this annuity contract. The Provision also describes the epecial distribution rules if the owner of this contract is a non-individual, such as a corporation. The Provision will not apply on the death of the annultant unless the annultant is also the owner of this contract. However, depending on the contract, the contract may end on the death of the annultant.

In the event of the contract owner's death, the Provision overrides other provisions in this contract relating to distributions under the contract.

I. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS -

- (A) If the owner of this contract dies on or after the date the payments under the contract have begun but have not yet been completed, then distributions of the remaining amounts payable under the contract must be made at least as rapidly as the rate that was being used at the date of death.
- (B) If the owner of this contract dies before the date that payments under the contract are due to begin, then distributions of all amounts payable under the contract must be completed within five years after the owner's death.
- II. EXCEPTIONS TO THE DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS -

The required distributions need not be made in the manner described under the "Distribution Requirements" section above, where any of the following situations apply:

- (A) Designated Beneficiary. The individual who becomes the new owner or holder of this contract can extend the distributions beyond the above prescribed time limit by choosing to receive distributions that start within one year atter the owner's death and extend for a period that does not exceed his or her life or life expectancy. Thus, the beneficiary may choose to receive distributions under a fixed period payout option (for a period not greater than his life expectancy) or a life annuity option.
- (B) Spouse as Beneficiary. If the individual who becomes the new owner or holder of this contract is the deceased owner's apouse, then the required distributions described in the Provision do not apply until the spouse's death.

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III. S L DISTRIBUTION RULES WHERE O' IS A NON-INDIVIDUAL -

If the owner of this contract is a corporation or other non-individual, the required distribution rules will apply when the primary annuitant dies or is changed. A primary annuitant is the individual whose life affects the liming or payout under the contract.

This provision is intended to satisfy the distribution-at-death requirements of Code section 72(s). We receive the right to amend this contract and endorsement by subsequent endorsement as necessary to comply with applicable tax requirements, if any, which are subject to change from time to time. Such additional endorsement, if necessary to comply with amended tax requirements, will be mailed to you and become effective within 30 days of mailing unless you notify us in writing, within that time frame, that you reject the endorsement.

Signed for the Company,

or Lean & Rent